



Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Investigation Division

May 1, 2006

DPS Eastern Nevada Task Force and Parole and Probation Division Bust Local Pot Distribution Operation

Multi-jurisdictional operation seizes nearly \$165,000.00 in marijuana and cash

Ely, Nevada~ On Friday April 28th, 2006, a joint operation with the White Pine County Sheriff's Department and the Nevada Department of Public Safety's Investigation Division (Eastern Nevada Task Force) and the Nevada Department of Public Safety's Parole & Probation Division, revealed an elaborate indoor marijuana cultivation system.

Officers executed a search warrant on the residence of 54-year old Jeffery M. Bachman at 311 Fay Ave. in Ely, Nevada. Officers found over 160 marijuana plants ranging in size from a few inches to over 6 feet tall. Also found were numerous baggies of already harvested and packaged marijuana ready for sale and growing, packaging, and smoking paraphernalia. The gross estimate of this operation's seizure is placed at nearly \$165,000.00.

White Pine County Sheriff, Bernie Romero, and District Attorney, Richard Sears, were personally on hand to assist in the operation. Eastern Nevada Task Force Commander Lt. James Mercado said, "There have been rumors of a marijuana grow operation in the area for sometime now, but it wasn't until today that it was pinpointed to Mr. Bachman who has had a couple of past arrests related to marijuana. All the local and state agencies came together with the exact pieces needed for the puzzle which led to today's successful arrest and seizure. This was a great example of pro-active narcotics enforcement between jurisdictions."

Bachman was placed in custody for cultivation of marijuana, possession of controlled substances for sale, possession of controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Total bail was set at \$50,000.00.

The arrests culminated an investigation by the Eastern Nevada Narcotics Task Force. The Task Force is comprised of the Nevada Department of Public Safety - Investigation Division, the White Pine County Sheriffs Office and the Eureka County Sheriffs Office

Concerned citizens with drug information are asked to call the task force at 1-866-273-7678. The DPS Investigation Division assists local law enforcement jurisdictions in criminal investigations. For more information on this case, contact Lt. Mercado at 775-623-6525 or White Pine Sheriff Bernie Romero at 775-289-4833.

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